



**SOROPTIMIST
FOUNDATION
OF
CANADA**

CORNERSTONE

QUICK FACTS ABOUT SOROPTIMIST FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) was established in 1958.

In the last 36 years, SFC has given \$933,000 in grants to over 150 women in graduate programs in Canadian Universities!

In 2007, Soroptimist Foundation of Canada celebrated reaching the \$1 Million mark in the Endowment Fund and it has been growing steadily to achieve \$1.8 Million in 2018.

In 2018, SFC was able to fund twelve Soroptimist Clubs who each received \$1000 of “Dream It Be It” type funding support.

SFC’s goal is to reach \$2 Million by 2021 allowing the Foundation to provide more Grants for Women plus fund more Soroptimist Club Grants.



Anna Der, Colleen Penrowley, Cyndy Roberts, Heather Rollins

Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Mission Statement is to solicit, attract, and manage charitable donations order to provide educational funding for the human rights of and the status of women

**Soroptimist Foundation of Canada
Club Grants
for 2018-2019 Year**

SI Victoria Westshore - Stella's Suppers

SI Courtenay - DREAM IT BE IT

SI TriCities - DREAM IT BE IT

SI Greater Victoria - DREAM IT BE

SI Peterborough - DREAM IT BE IT

SI Grand Erie - DREAM IT BE IT

SI Surrey Delta - DREAM IT BE IT

SI North & West Vancouver - Gender Equality

SI Central Alberta - Mother Daughter Conference

SI Calgary - Sharing Closet

SI London - DREAM IT BE IT

SI Edmonton - DREAM IT BE IT

The Soroptimist Foundation Club Grant Deadline is June 30, 2019 and the application will be available on the SFC Website. Please note any project funded must be held and reported back to the foundation before a new application will be considered.

**Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Annual General Meeting
will be held in conjunction with the
SI Western Canada Region Fall Retreat
September 21, 2019
Sandman Hotel at 32720 Simon Avenue
Abbotsford BC**

Soroptimist Foundation Board of Directors 2018-2020

Soroptimist Clubs in Canada elect five Directors to the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada for a four year term, nominated by Soroptimist Club's Members who are made up of women in business, management and professions across Canada..



Chair Colleen Penrowley

Colleen has been a member of SI of the Tri Cities since 2008 and is passionate about our mission to improve the lives of women and girls through access to education. She loves the international aspect of Soroptimist and attends both SIA and SI conventions every chance she gets.

(Colleen's email is chair@soroptimistfoundation.ca)



Secretary Dianne Nielsen—Newest Member

Dianne has been a member of SI Peterborough since 2002. She has served as a member of the board of directors, as a director, president elect and president of her local club. She has also chaired a number of program and fund raising committees at the club level as well as assisting in club building activities. A regular attendee at spring conferences, Dianne recently worked on the host organizing committee for the Eastern Region Conference in 2017 in Peterborough. Dianne has attended both Federation and International conferences during her time as a Soroptimist. From 2012 to 2016 Dianne was the treasurer for the Eastern Canada Region Board of Directors. In her personal life, Dianne is a mother and grandmother who shares her enthusiasm for travel with husband and partner of 39 years. Since her retirement from a career in Labour Relations and Human Resource Management, Dianne enjoys playing golf, boating, watercolour painting, gardening and various volunteer activities in her community.

(Dianne's email is secretary@soroptimistfoundation.ca)



Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Board Member Heather Rollins:

Heather lives in Chilliwack B.C. with her husband Brian and her two dogs Eddie & Remi. Owner Operator of Budget Blinds of Abbotsford & Langley since 2012. Heather has been with Soroptimist of SI Chilliwack since 1998 and served as President 1999-2000 and 2009-2013. Heather was WCR Region Governor 2014-2016. On the SFC Board, Heather is responsible for Club Grants and is Western Canada Grants for Women Manager.

Heather's email for club grants is (clubgrants@soroptimistfoundation.ca) and for Grants for Women is (grantsforwomenwest@soroptimistfoundation.ca)

Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Treasurer Margot Rutherford:



SFC Board Member Since 2017, Margot was born and raised in Vancouver and moved to the Comox Valley on Vancouver Island and settled on an acreage and raised 2 daughters with her husband Bruce. Margot became a Notary Public in 1979 and continues in that profession working as a real estate conveyancer and dealing with Wills, Powers of Attorney and other personal planning documents. Margot was introduced to Soroptimist International of Courtenay in 1998 and has been Assistant Treasurer, Treasurer, and President over the years. SFC is a special organization to Margot when, many years ago, Flo Grant of the Foundation announced that the Foundation's Endowment Fund reached a plump One Million Dollars. It was so thrilling to see her happiness and enthusiasm on behalf of the Foundation. Margot stays engaged with the Foundation because of the assistance it gives to Women in education as well as its grants to Soroptimist Clubs in Canada to assist in the Dream It Be It and other worthy events.

(Her email is treasurer@soroptimistfoundation.ca)

Soroptimist Foundation Board of Directors 2018-2020 con't.



Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Board Member Cyndy Roberts:

Cyndy was born in and raised in Hamilton, Ontario but has lived in the Brantford area for the last 17 years. Cyndy and her husband have 8 children and nine grandchildren between them with the first great grand child due in August 2019. Cyndy now works part time at Haldimand Norfolk Women's Services and was instrumental in Soroptimist clubs in Haldimand Norfolk and Grand Erie. Cyndy has been a Soroptimist for over 25 years and has been an integral part of starting 2 Soroptimist Clubs where she has held most positions on the board. She is the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Eastern Canada Grants for Women Manager. Cyndy's favourite area of service is Grants for Women and the more women we can reach/support the better! Her email is: grantsforwomeneast@soroptimistfoundation.ca

Donations to the Soroptimist Foundation is how projects are funded for female graduate students and Club Projects across Canada!

Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) Directors administer the Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Endowment Fund which is a permanent fund from which the interest income is spent on Bursaries for Women in Graduate Programs and grants for clubs. Soroptimist Foundation of Canada Board Members each year update applications and then post details of how female students may apply with a deadline of January 31 every year. SFC Chairs accept and screen applications then support six judges across Canada who help make the decisions and then administer the funds for the four \$7500 grants for Canadian Female Graduate Students chosen each year!

SFC Bursaries have a deadline of January 31 for female graduate students across Canada to assist with university studies which will qualify them for careers to improve the quality of women's lives. Examples include providing services to women and girls including legal counseling and assistance, counseling women entering or re-entering the labour market, counseling women in crisis, and/or training women for non-traditional employment, etc. Please see next page for 2018 winners.



Soroptimist Foundation of Canada 2018 Winner for Eastern Canada Area: Suzanne Dunn

Suzanne is a PhD student at the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa. Her research focuses on the intersections of gender, equality, technology and the law, with a particular focus on technology facilitated violence. She completed her Masters of Law in 2017 with a focus on the non-consensual distribution of intimate images and was awarded the Shirley Greenberg Foundation Scholarship for feminist legal studies. She currently works as a research fellow with The eQuality Project where she researches how corporate data collection can impact the privacy, identity, and safety of young people. Suzanne is a policy advisory with the Digital Inclusion Lab at Global Affairs Canada where she advises the federal government on

issues related to technology facilitated violence against women. She was called to the Ontario bar in 2016. As a volunteer, Suzanne is the co-chair of the Feminist Alliance for International Action where she advocates for the implementation of women's international human rights in Canada. She also sits on the University of Ottawa's faculty of law committee on ending sexual violence where she has assisted in the development and implementation of a mandatory bystander intervention program for first year law students. Prior to her extended legal studies, Suzanne worked with victims of gender-based violence in British Columbia and facilitated workshops for northern youth in her home territory of Yukon!

Suzanne Dunn will be presenting on her education on technology related violence at the Soroptimist Clubs of Eastern Canada Conference in May 2019

Soroptimist Foundation of Canada 2018 Winner for Western Canada Area: Vivian Tsang



Vivian Tsang is a medical student at the University of British Columbia where she was recognized as a National Schulich Scholar, a Major Entrance Scholarship winner and received the Premier and Wesbrook Scholarships. Vivian was awarded the City of Vancouver's Award of Excellence and was nominated as a YWCA Young Women of Distinction. She is heavily involved in paediatric patient advocacy through her positions as Team Lead of KidsCan at BC Children's Hospital in Vancouver, co-lead on the national Child-Bright Youth Advisory Panel Steering Committee, and on the Board of Directors of the International Children's Advisory Network - an advisory group that collaborates with researchers and clinicians around the world to improve paediatric research where she is advocating for improvements to mental health resources for BC youth. Vivian is a WE Day Winner, Speaker and TEDx presenter. Vivian founded and serves as the Director of the

Humanitarian Organization for Providing Empowerment (HOPE), a non-profit organization that empowers students to work alongside marginalized community groups in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver. Through mutual aid and interpersonal humanitarianism establish the Vancouver Street Store - the first rent-free, premises-free pop up store. Vivian organizes the HOPE for Success program helping over 300 students a year to transition into post-secondary education especially supporting girls from inner-city schools to consider post-secondary education. This summer Vivian will be working in South Africa to learn about HIV/AIDS infection prevention for populations living in low-resource settings. She will supplement this field work with an internship in Switzerland at the World Health Organization (WHO) working in the Tropical Diseases Research Unit.



Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) 2018 Winner for Western Canada Area: Kirsten McIlveen

Doctoral student in Geography, University of British Columbia, current; MA in Geography, Simon Fraser University; BA in political studies, Simon Fraser University.

Kirsten has two decades of engagement in prisoner advocacy as a UBC instructor within the women's prison where she developed and taught university level Social Science eventually including a semester-long interdisciplinary educational project with different instructors. A third iteration of this teaching series is completed. Stereotypes have been challenged; valuable community connections built and while basic education and literacy are major issues in prison education; gaining access to postsecondary education in women's prisons can transform lives at both the individual and collective scale. Higher-education in prisons reduces recidivism, promotes self-esteem, new ways of communicating and offers the student-prisoner an alternative identity complete with potential social networks, new languages and values. "Broken Silence", a collection of prisoners' writing and artwork is distributed to all women's prisons in Canada and "The Word is Out, A Women's Community News Service" is written by and about women in prison. Kirsten worked with Correctional Investigators regarding a transgendered prisoner kept in segregation too long and spoke to the death of a student prisoner; calling attention, to the lack of medical treatment for a complicated pregnancy. Kirsten learned about freedom, feminism, punishment, non-traditional learning, First Nations' traditions and politics and about speaking one's mind under surveillance. Doctoral research will be on directly engaging with prisoner education as part of UBC's Geography program as one of few University departments in North America that has faculty with interest and expertise in the new sub-disciplinary field of Carceral Geography. To this sub-discipline Kirsten will bring first-hand experience, knowledge and deep enduring commitments to women in prison as she continues advocacy alongside her doctoral work.



Soroptimist Foundation of Canada (SFC) Winner 2018 from Eastern Canada Desirée de Jesus

*PhD Candidate in Film and Moving Image Studies, Concordia University
MA (with Distinction) in Christianity and the Arts, King's College London
Hons. BA (magna cum laude), Film Studies and Special Honors Curriculum,
Hunter College (CUNY)*

Desirée de Jesus is a Film and Moving Image Studies PhD candidate in the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema at Concordia University. Her doctoral research focuses on representations of displaced girls and marginalized women in popular culture. It examines how the treatment of narrative spaces in contemporary films about precarious girlhood provides new and more inclusive ways of understanding how girls develop and experience their identities. Desirée is an experienced and dedicated researcher, enthusiastic about cultivating knowledge, demonstrating the continued value of film and moving images for society, and serving the needs of diverse audiences. Her dedication to extending film education beyond the traditional classroom is also evident with her involvement at the adolescent unit of a mental health facility where she designed and facilitated discussions around popular films. Prior to this education path, she worked full time as a mentor for at risk inner city youth. During her tenure, Desirée taught an undergraduate film course about girlhood and she began producing video essays that help film lovers think critically about female driven films and the ways these films speak to broader cultural issue affecting women and girls. Desirée presented at the SFC 2018 Annual General Meeting in Peterborough where ECR members asked many questions and gave her a standing ovation for her hard work and her choices of education supporting women and girls.

HOW TO DONATE?



...Go Direct

I would like to make my annual donation to
Soroptimist Foundation of Canada via direct deposit.
Pre-authorization for Scheduled Donations from my Bank
Account:

Name: (printed) _____

Club: SI of _____ Region: _____

I authorize Soroptimist Foundation of Canada to make withdrawals in the amount of:

\$ _____ monthly quarterly bi-annually annually

starting date: _____ , 201____ , 202____

Attached is my voided cheque required to set up an automatic deposit schedule.
Unless indicated otherwise donations are held in the Endowment Fund in perpetuity.

Please use my donation for Administrative purposes.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: Soroptimist Foundation of Canada,
c/o Margot Rutherford, Treasurer
981 Fitzgerald Ave.
Courtenay, B.C.
V9N 2R6



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